

# STARBLAZER

FANTASY FICTION IN PICTURES

No. 187

26p



## MIND WARRIOR



**DON'T FORGET THIS  
MONTH'S *OTHER***

**STARBLAZER**

FANTASY FICTION IN PICTURE

26p



**STARHAWK**

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# MIND WARRIOR

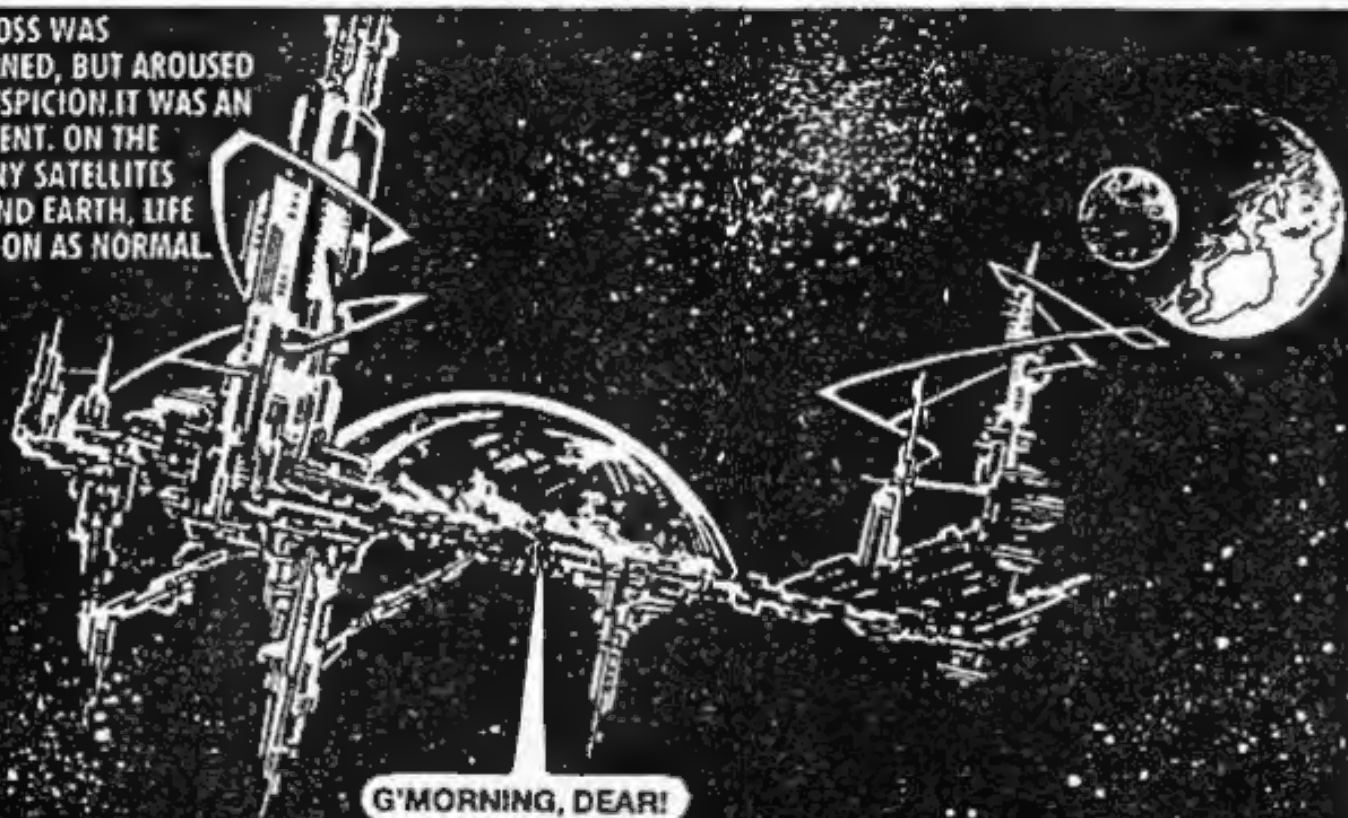
THE SPACE CLIPPER FROM VENUS WAS EN ROUTE TO EARTH WITH ITS COMPLEMENT OF FIVE HUNDRED PASSENGERS. IT WAS A NORMAL RUN AND THE SCANNERS READ 'ALL CLEAR'.



A MICRO-SECOND LATER SHE PLOUGHED INTO AN ASTEROID THAT SUDDENLY MATERIALISED FROM NOWHERE. THERE WERE NO SURVIVORS.



HER LOSS WAS MOURNED, BUT AROUSED NO SUSPICION. IT WAS AN ACCIDENT. ON THE COLONY SATELLITES AROUND EARTH, LIFE WENT ON AS NORMAL.



G'MORNING, DEAR!





ANOTHER ASTEROID MATERIALISED  
IN THE EDGE OF THE COLONY  
SATELLITE, RUPTURING THE  
CENTRAL DOME.



TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND PEOPLE DIED IN THE HARD VACUUM OF SPACE.

# AARGH!

A black and white comic panel showing a woman in a long dress floating in space, her arms outstretched in a scream. The background is filled with diagonal motion lines and a large, jagged asteroid fragment is visible in the upper left. The sound effect 'AARGH!' is written in large, bold, outlined letters across the top of the panel.

RESCUE SQUADS FOUND NO SURVIVORS.

THAT ASTEROID SHOULD HAVE  
KEPT ON GOING AFTER IT HIT THE  
SATELLITE, BUT INSTEAD IT  
REMAINED AT THE POINT OF  
IMPACT.

SEND A REPORT TO SPACE INTELLIGENCE.  
THEY MIGHT MAKE SENSE OF IT!

A black and white comic panel showing two astronauts in full space suits on a rocky, cratered surface, likely the moon. They are looking towards a large, dark, cratered sphere in the background. A speech bubble from one of the astronauts contains text. In the foreground, there is a large, curved metallic structure, possibly part of a lunar lander or a large antenna.



BACK ON EARTH—

# SPACE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

AFTER THE COL-SAT DISASTER WE  
BEGAN LOOKING FOR CAUSES AND  
ANYTHING UNUSUAL IN SPACE ...

RESEARCH SCIENTIST CALDO WAS ADDRESSING A  
GATHERING OF EARTH'S GENERALS.

... WE'VE DISCOVERED ANOTHER  
FIFTY OF THESE ASTEROIDS. ALL  
ARE STATIONARY AND THEY FORM  
A CURIOUS PATTERN.

SO WHAT'S YOUR  
CONCLUSION, CALDO?





TWO HOURS LATER CALDO WAS ON BOARD A SMALL COMMANDO RAIDER HEADING TOWARDS MERCURY WHILE ALL OTHER SHIPS WERE BLURRING AT WARP SPEED IN THE OTHER DIRECTION.



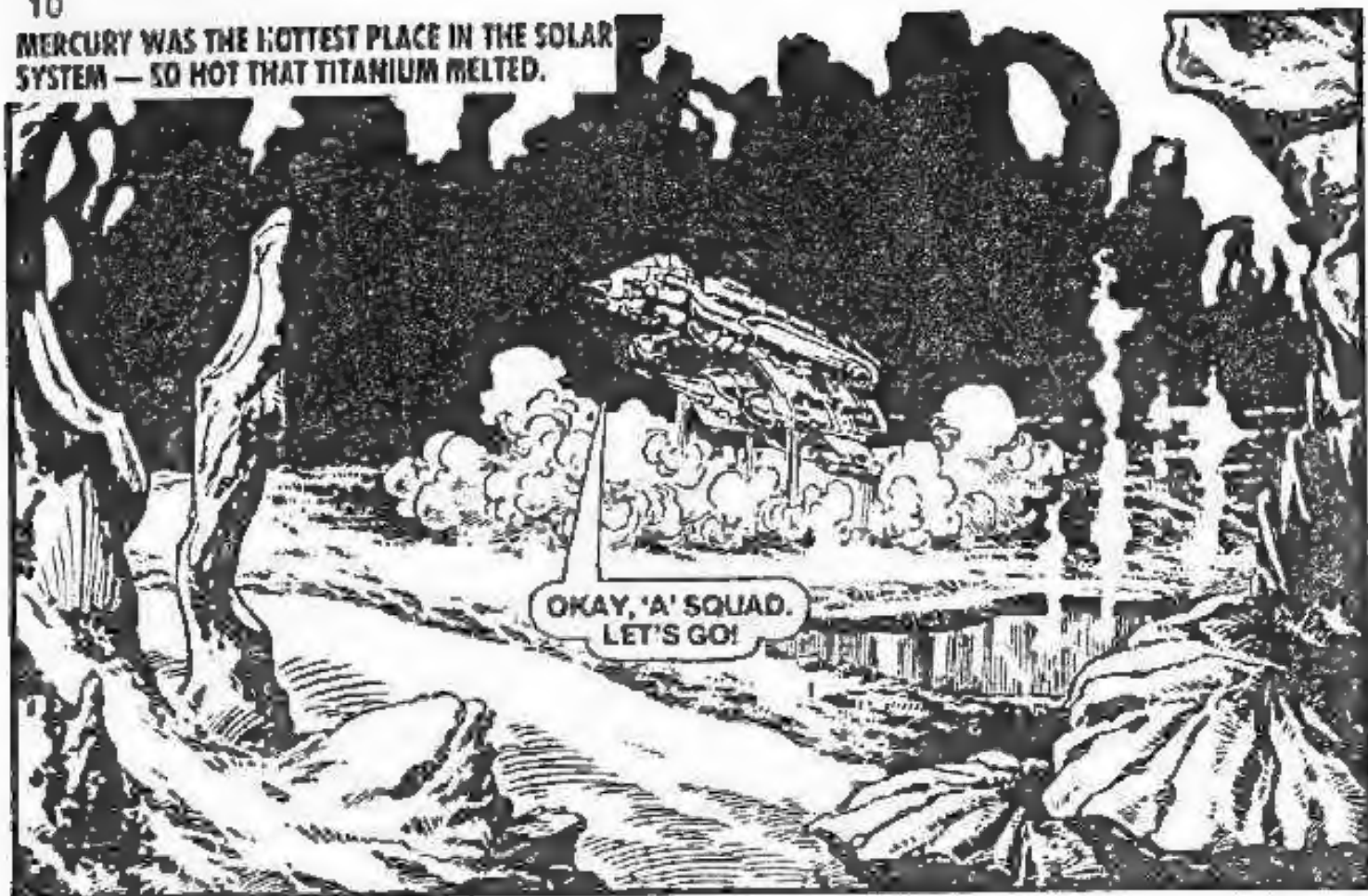
CAPTAIN OF THE COMMANDOS WAS LYGE, A FRIEND OF CALDO'S.



IF THE ZARGS ARE ON MERCURY THEY'LL BE WELL CONCEALED. THEY'LL ALSO HAVE CONTROL OVER THE MINING BASE.

WE'LL TAKE NO CHANCES, SIR! WE'LL LAND WELL AWAY FROM THE BASE AND JET-PACK IN THERE!

MERCURY WAS THE HOTTEST PLACE IN THE SOLAR SYSTEM — SO HOT THAT TITANIUM MELTED.



THE COMMANDOS JET-PACKED OUT —





THEY LANDED NOT FAR FROM WHERE ROBOTIC MINING EQUIPMENT WAS WORKING.

EVERYTHING SEEMS IN ORDER. NO SHIPS OR GUARDS AND THE ROBO-MINERS ARE WORKING NORMALLY. SENSOR READING SHOWS NO SCANNERS ARE PROBING FOR US — SO WE'LL GO THE REST OF THE WAY ON FOOT!



HAS ANY ONE SEEN US, CAPTAIN?



NEGATIVE, SOLDIER! PERHAPS CALDO'S THEORY IS WRONG.

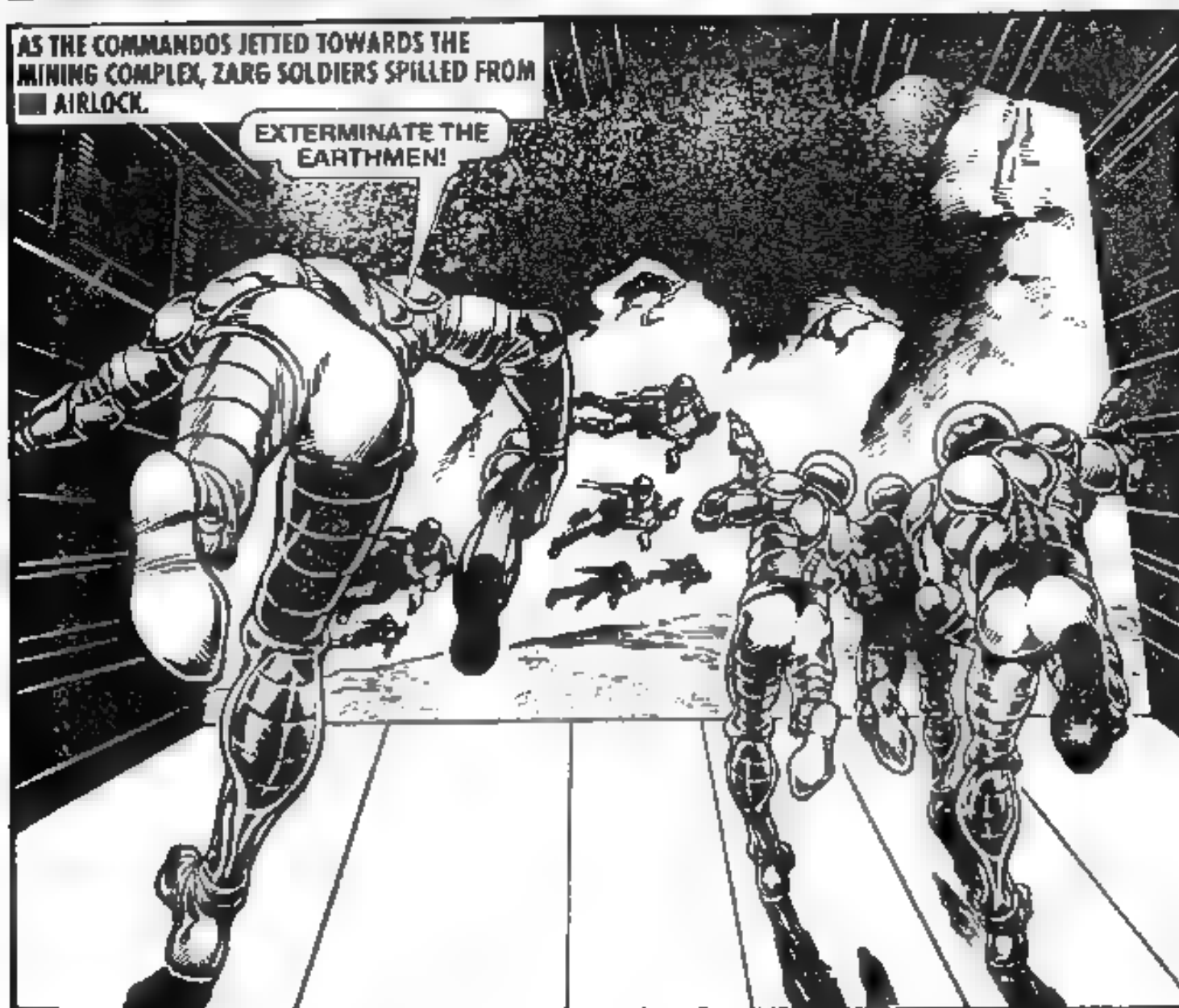
■ THEY PASSED THE ROBO-MINER IT TURNED LASER BLITTERS ON THEM.







AS THE COMMANDOS JETTED TOWARDS THE MINING COMPLEX, ZARG SOLDIERS SPILLED FROM AIRLOCK.



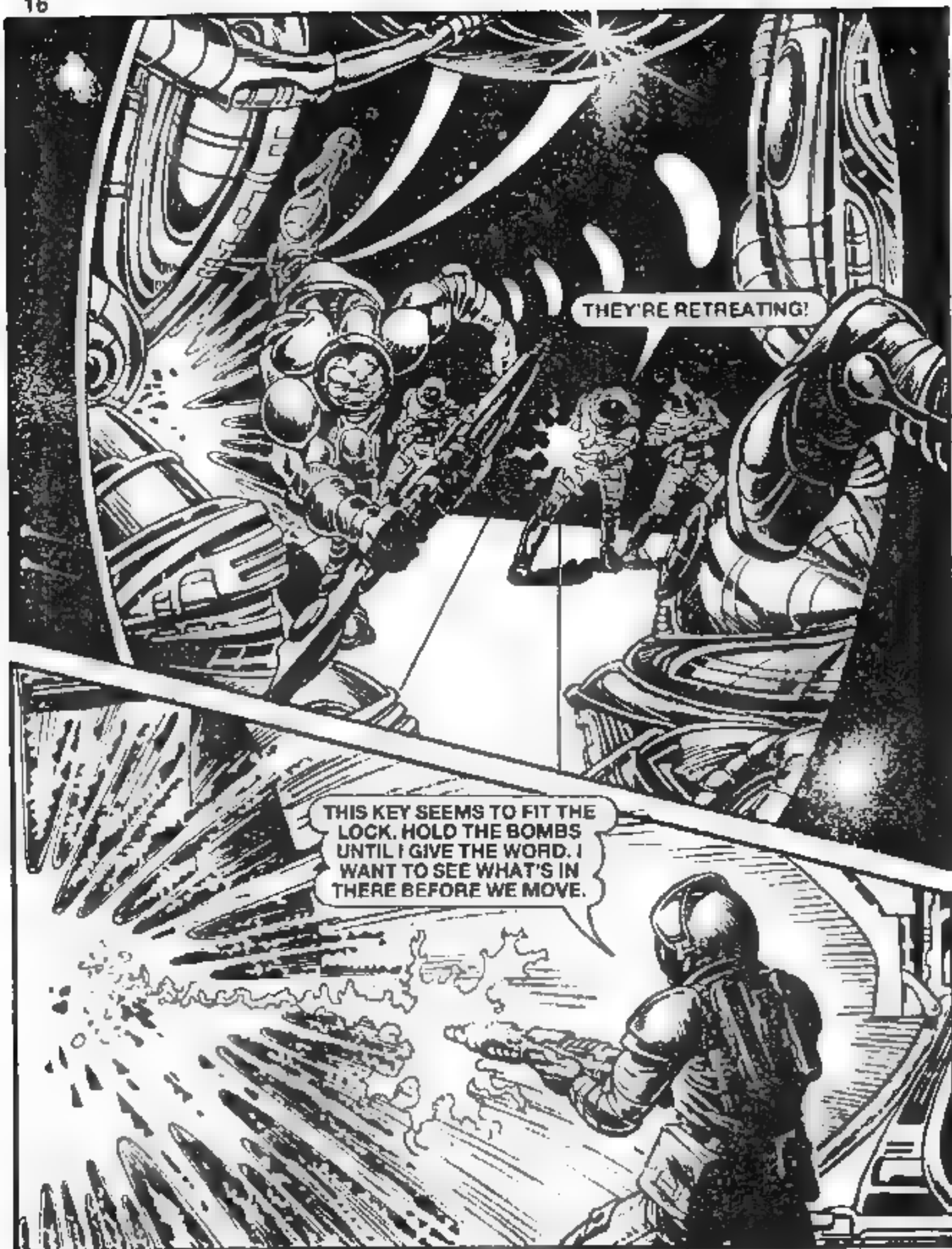


THE ZARG FORCE WAS WIPED OUT.





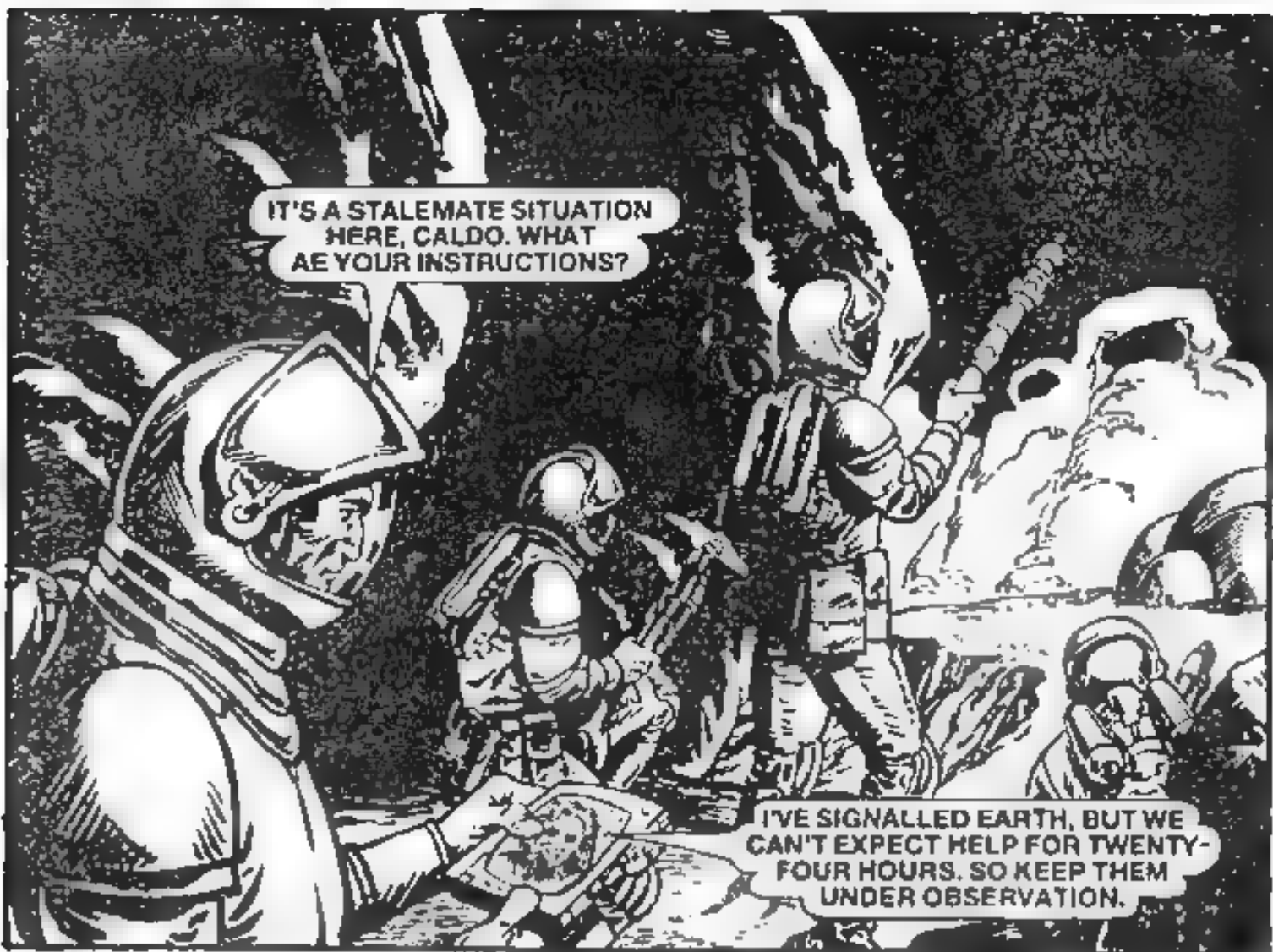






STOP RIGHT THERE, EARTHMAN, OR WE'LL KILL ALL  
THESE HOSTAGES!





THEY WAITED FOR TWENTY HOURS...



SOMETHING'S HAPPENING, CAPTAIN. THE MAIN ENTRANCE LOCK'S OPENING. I THINK THEY'RE COMING OUT!



THEY'VE GOT GROUND TRANSPORTERS! THEY MUST BE GOING TO THEIR SHIP.

YEAH! I WONDER WHY THEY WAITED SO LONG?

THE ZARG COMMANDER BROADCAST TO THE HIDDEN COMMANDOS BY TRANSLATOR PACK.



NOW HEAR THIS, EARTHMEN, WE'VE STILL GOT HOSTAGES. ANY TRICKERY AND THEY DIE!





THE MACHINES HALTED AT THE EDGE OF A LAKE OF MOLTEN TITANIUM.

THEY'VE COME TO A DEAD  
END. THE TRANSPORTERS  
WON'T GET UP THOSE CLIFFS!



**TWO ZARG SHIPS SUDDENLY ROSE FROM BENEATH THE LAKE.**

**LOOK AT THAT!**

**NO WONDER OUR SHIP'S SENSORS  
COULDN'T FIND ANY TRACE OF THEM!**

**THE ZARGS BOARDED THEIR SHIPS,  
BUT ONLY ONE OF THEM PULLED  
INTO SPACE.**

**ONLY ONE LEAVING!**

**THE HOSTAGES ARE STILL IN THE  
TRANSPORTER. LOOKS AS IF THE  
ZARGS ARE MAKING SURE WE DO  
NOTHING UNTIL AT LEAST ONE  
GETS AWAY!**

THE SECOND SHIP FINALLY  
LEFT —

THE COMMANDOS JET-PACKED INTO THE AIR TO BE PICKED  
UP BY A LOW-FLYING VESSEL.

THE MINING CREW ARE A-  
OKAY. COME ON IN AND  
PICK US UP. WE'LL GET IN A  
SNATCH FORMATION!

WITH YOU IN  
THIRTY SECONDS.

COLLECTION IS CLEAN. GET  
ME SPACESIDE AND AFTER  
THOSE ZARG VERMIN!

YES, SIR!



CALDO WAS IN  
CONTROL OF THE  
PICK-UP VESSEL.

WE KNOW WHY THE ZARGS WAITED.  
THERE'S BEEN ANOTHER ASTEROID  
MATERIALISATION. NOW THEY  
MUST KNOW ALL THEY WANTED  
TO ... AND HAVE LEFT.

AND THE TWO SHIPS ARE TAKING  
THAT DATA HOME WITH THEM!

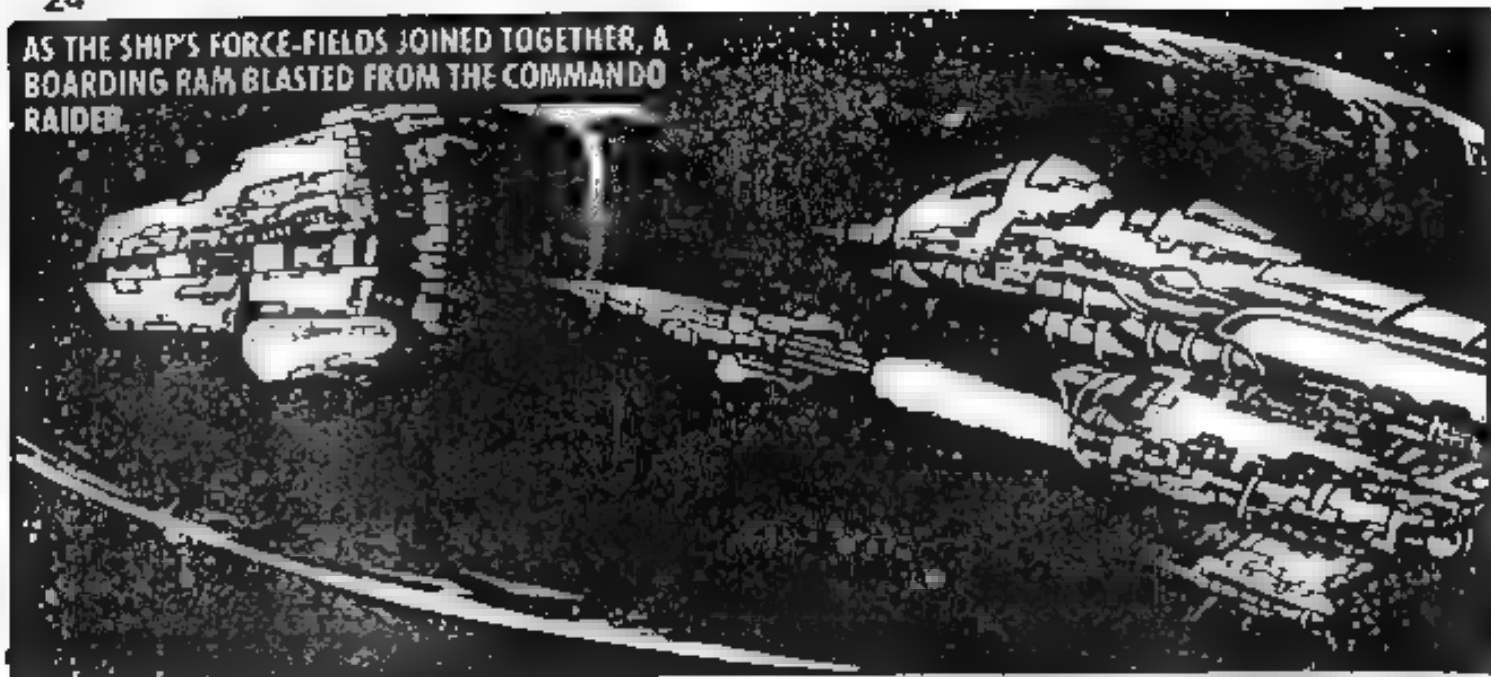
COULD YOU GET ON  
BOARD ONE OF THOSE  
SHIPS AND TAP THEIR  
COMPUTERS, LYGE?

WE COULD DO IT WITH A BOARDING  
RAM, BUT IT'S VERY RISKY!

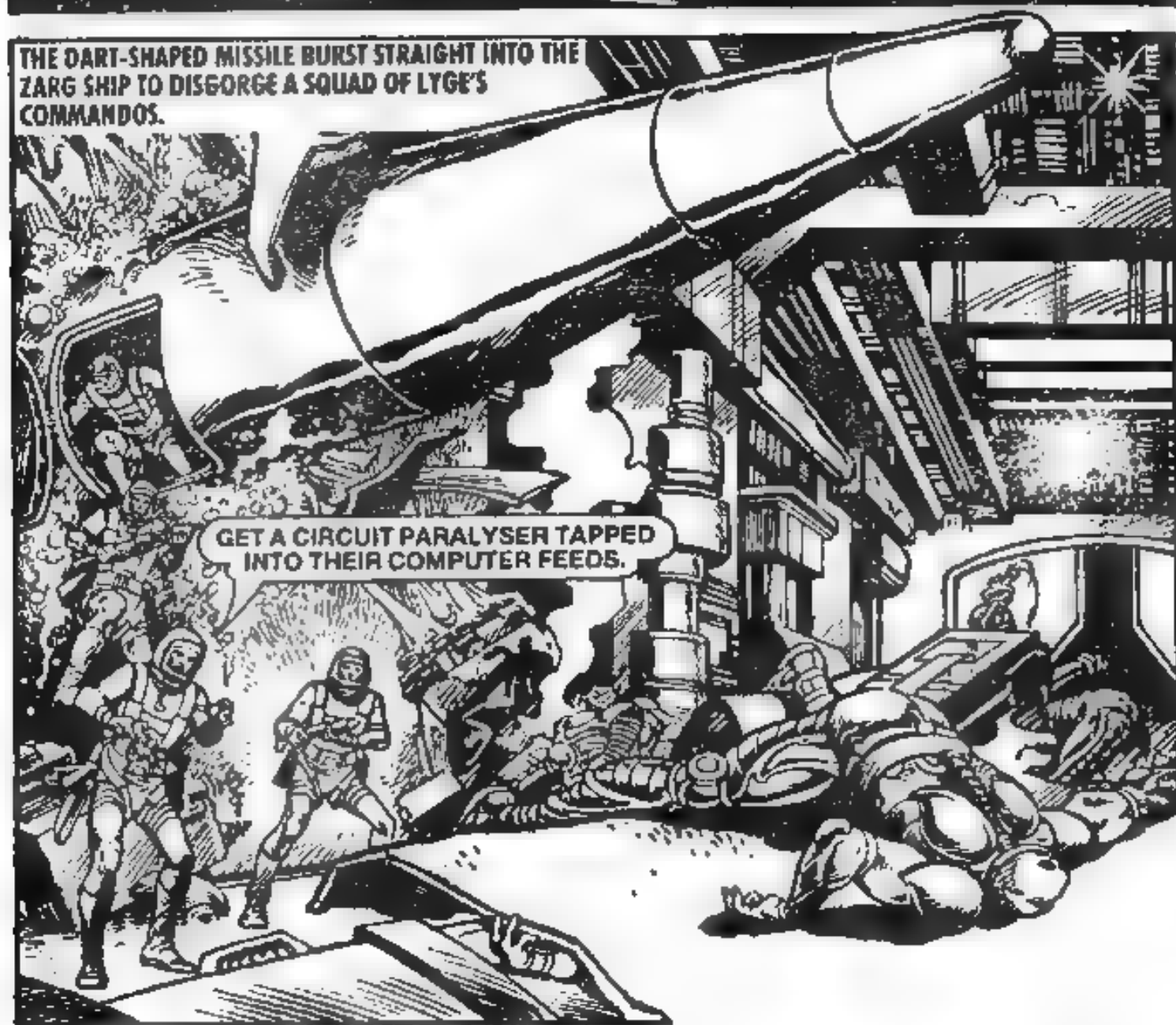
HOURS LATER LYGE'S SHIP WAS CLOSING ON THE LAST ZARG SHIP.

WHEN THE FORCE-FIELDS  
TOUCH, THEY'LL CANCEL OUT  
EACH OTHER. THEY'LL ALSO  
NEUTRALISE ALL EXTERNAL  
WEAPONS SYSTEMS!

AS THE SHIP'S FORCE-FIELDS JOINED TOGETHER, A BOARDING RAM BLASTED FROM THE COMMANDO RAIDER.



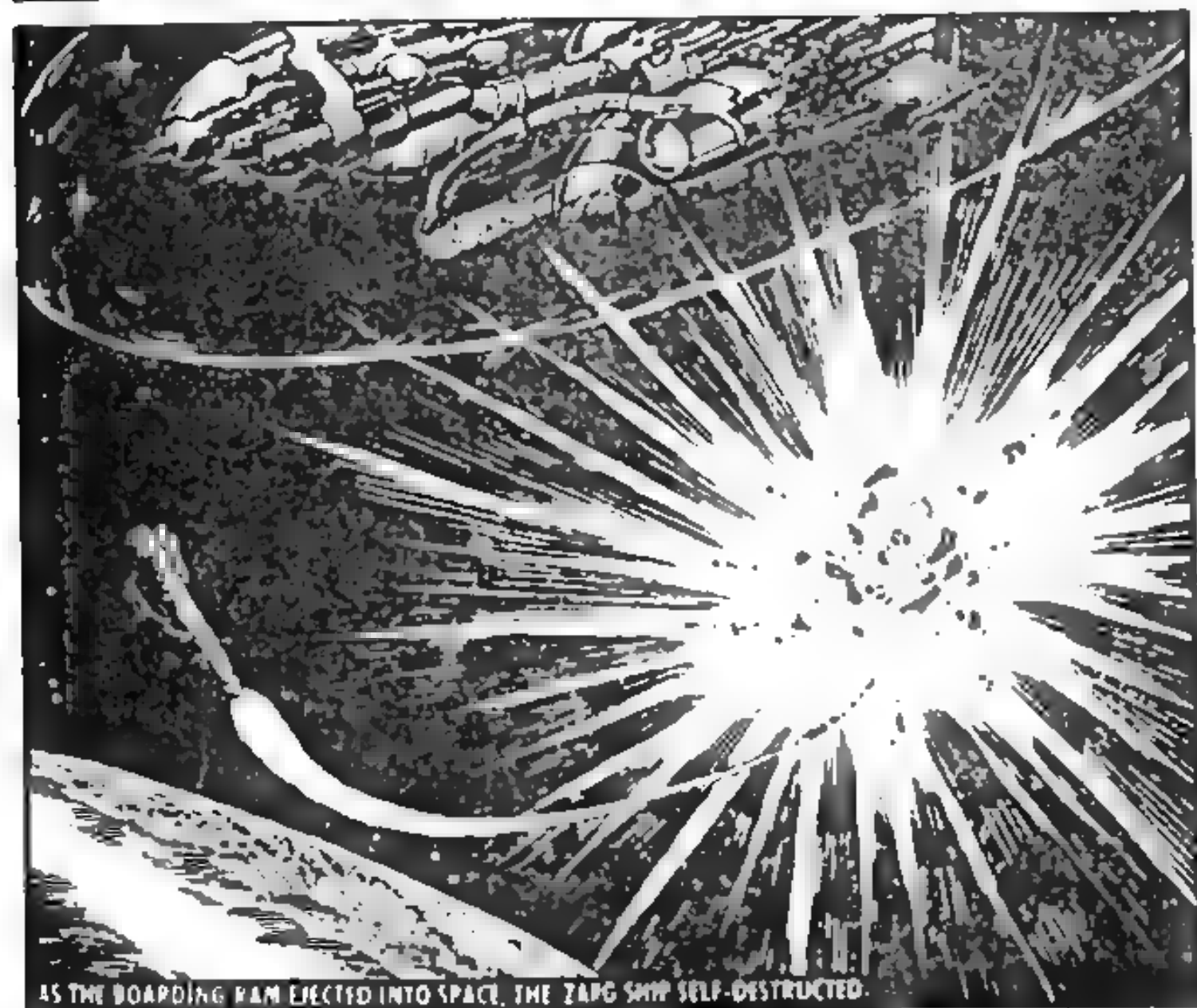
THE DART-SHAPED MISSILE BURST STRAIGHT INTO THE ZARG SHIP TO DISGORGE A SQUAD OF LYGE'S COMMANDOS.












AS THE BOARDING RAM EJECTED INTO SPACE, THE ZARG SHIP SELF-DESTRUCTED.


THE RAM WAS PICKED UP SAFELY.



EVERYTHING IN THEIR COMPUTER IS IN HERE. IT'S A PITY THEIR OTHER SHIP MADE ITS ESCAPE.

THAT DOESN'T MATTER — THIS INFORMATION IS WHAT WE NEED.

BACK AT SPACE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY THE INFORMATION WAS PROCESSED ...



THE SUN IS THE TARGET. WHY, WE DON'T KNOW, BUT THEY HAVE THE CO-ORDINATES TO HIT IT! ACCORDING TO THEIR COMPUTER, THEY ARE USING A WEAPON CALLED THE 'TIME GUN'. IT TAKES THEM SEVEN PERIODS TO READY THEIR 'TIME GUN', SO WE SHOULD EXPECT A MOVE SOON ...

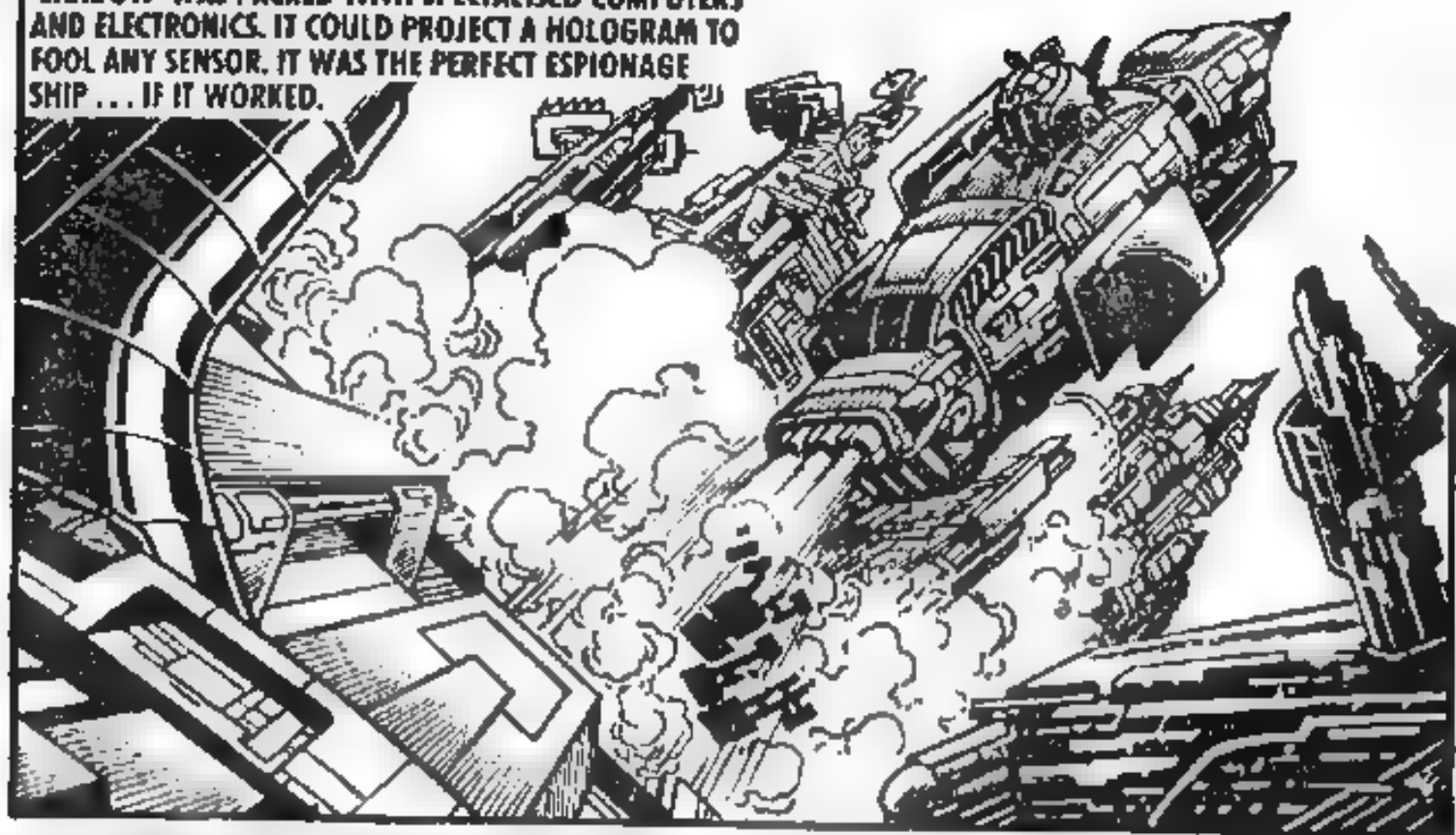
... A MOVE THAT COULD PROVE FATAL FOR EARTH AND THE SOLAR SYSTEM!

WE MUST ASSEMBLE THE WAR-FLEET AND INVADE THE ZARGS.





SHADOW WAS PACKED WITH SPECIALISED COMPUTERS AND ELECTRONICS. IT COULD PROJECT A HOLOGRAM TO FOOL ANY SENSOR. IT WAS THE PERFECT ESPIONAGE SHIP ... IF IT WORKED.




THANK YOU FOR ASKING MY SQUAD TO COME WITH YOU, CALDO. WE STILL HAVE A SCORE TO SETTLE WITH THE ZARCSI

YEAH, BUT HOW ARE YOU GOING TO FIND THIS TIME-GUN?

I'VE DRAINED THE COMPUTER INFORMATION YOU GOT INTO SHADOW'S SYSTEM.





SHADOW'S DONE SOME REVERSE  
COMPUTING FROM THE RANGING SHOTS.  
WE BELIEVE THE 'GUN' IS IN SPACE ORBIT  
AROUND ONE OF THE ZARG FRINGE  
PLANETS.

THEY APPROACHED THE  
ZARG 5'S SOLAR SYSTEM,  
SHADOW PROJECTED A  
HOLOGRAM OF A ZARG  
CRUISER AROUND ITSELF.



SENSORS ARE PROBING US. WE  
MUST BE VERY NEAR TO THE 'GUN'.

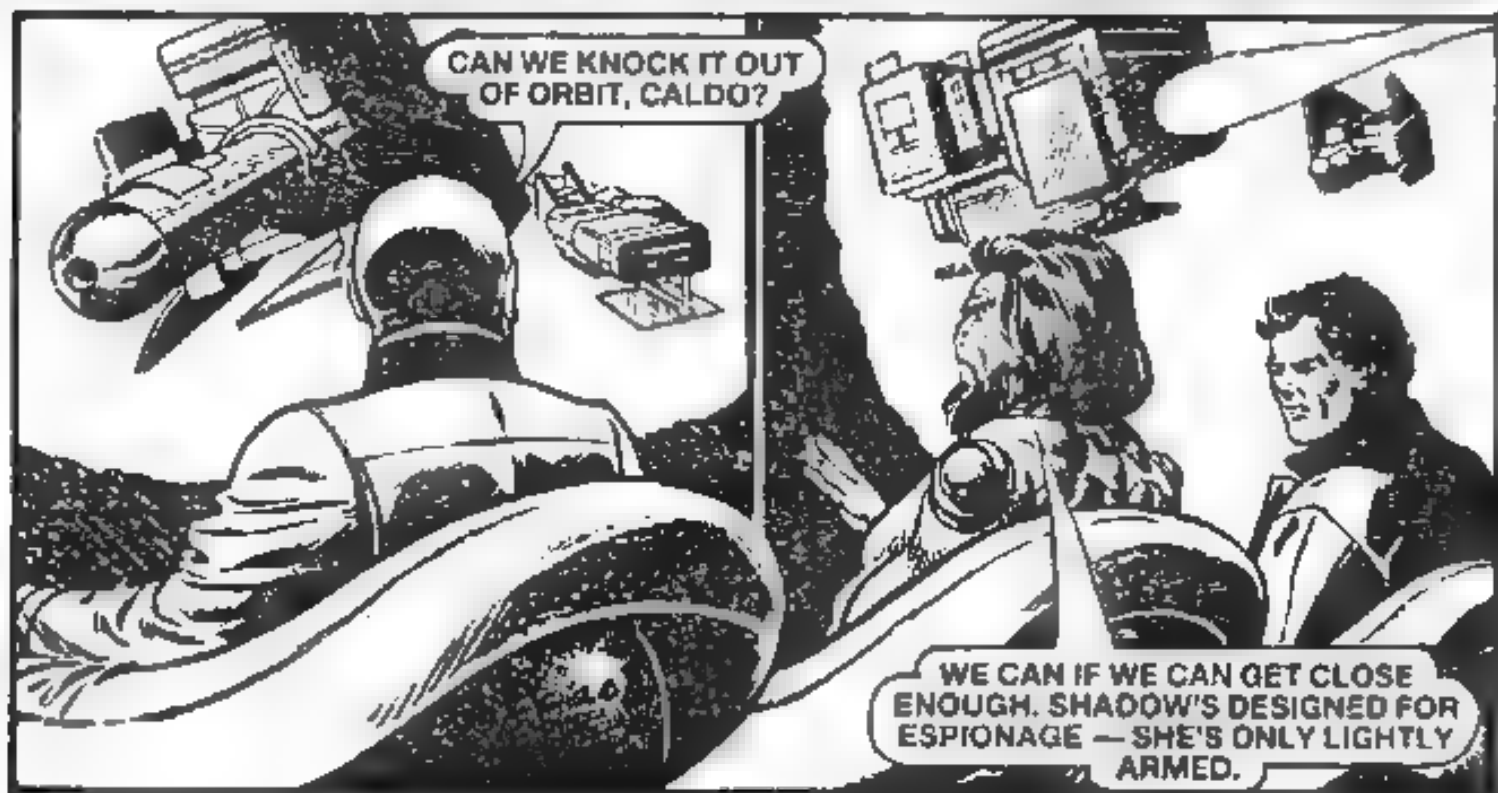
WILL THEY RECOGNISE  
US AS AN ENEMY?

NO WAY! SHADOW'S  
ELECTRONIC CAMOUFLAGE  
IS WORKING PERFECTLY.



AS PREDICTED THEY FOUND THE TIME-GUN IN ORBIT AROUND A FRINGE PLANET.

WHAT A SIZE!



WHEN THEY WERE ALMOST IN RANGE ...

CAPTAIN! ONE OF OUR CRUISERS IS  
MAKING AN UNAUTHORISED APPROACH.

ASK IT WHAT  
IT WANTS.

THEY'RE NOT ACCEPTING  
TRANSMISSIONS!

TREAT THAT INCOMING CRUISER AS  
HOSTILE! THEY KNOW THE RULES!

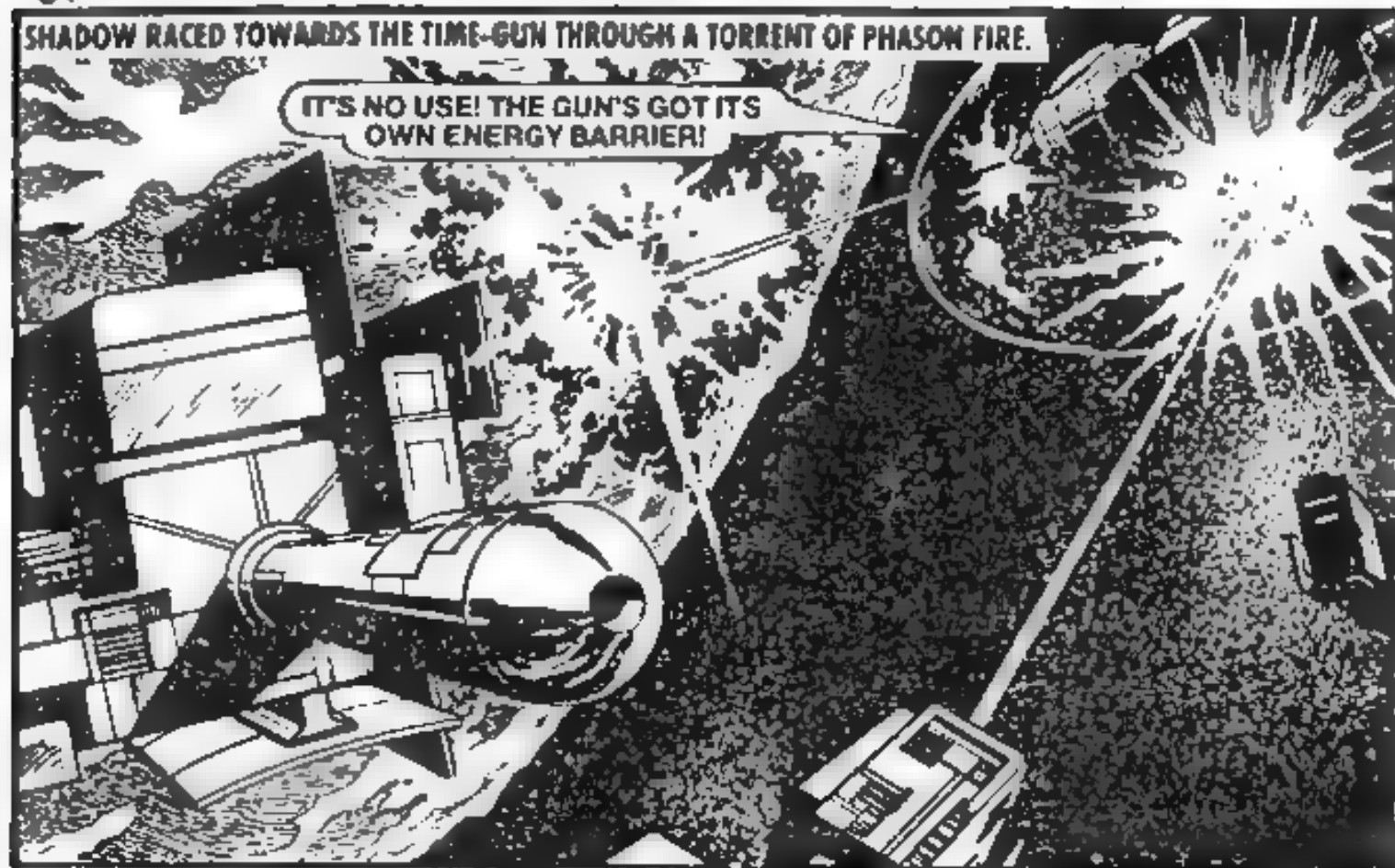
ALERT, ALL UNITS! DESTROY  
SHIP IN RED QUARTER FOUR!

THEY'VE TUMBLED US!

DROP THE HOLO! ALL POWER TO THE  
SHIELDS — WE'RE GOING IN CLOSE!

SHADOW RACED TOWARDS THE TIME-GUN THROUGH A TORRENT OF PHASON FIRE.

IT'S NO USE! THE GUN'S GOT ITS OWN ENERGY BARRIER!



THERE'S NO WAY WE'RE GONNA ZAP THAT BABY WITH OUR PEA-SHOOTER!

LOOKS AS IF WE'RE IN LINE FOR SOME ZAPPING OURSELVES FROM THOSE CRUISERS.



THERE'S MORE THAN ONE WAY TO SKIN A ZOZO, AS THEY SAY!

THE TIME-GUN'S POWER SOURCE IS ON THE PLANET, WHICH MEANS THAT THE POWER HAS TO BE BEAMED UP! AND THAT'S ITS WEAK POINT. WITHOUT POWER IT'S JUST A HEAP OF JUNK. SO ALL WE'VE GO TO DO IS WRECK IT.





BUT FIRST WE'VE GOT TO LOSE  
THE OPPOSITION! TAKE US IN TO  
THAT ASTEROID CLUSTER,  
SHADOW!

AT REDUCED SPEED THEY FLEW  
THROUGH THE ASTEROIDS.

LOOKS AS IF THIS WAS THE  
SUPPLY POINT FOR THEIR  
RANGING SHOTS!

A HUGE EXPLOSION FILLED SPACE AS SHADOW DISINTEGRATED.

WE HAVE DESTROYED  
THE EARTH SHIP!

MAY ALL EARTHMEN  
SO PERISH!

SIR, THE EXPLOSION HAS MOVED  
SOME ASTEROIDS OUT OF ORBIT.  
ONE IS PREDICTED TO ENTER THE  
PLANET'S GRAVITY FIELD —  
SHALL WE DESTROY IT?

NO! IT'LL BURN ITSELF TO PIECES IN THE  
ATMOSPHERE. WE MUST GET BACK ON  
STATION IN CASE THERE ARE OTHER  
EARTH SHIPS NEAR.

THE ASTEROID PLUNGED  
TOWARDS THE PLANET.

SEE? IT'LL BE  
POWDER BEFORE IT  
TOUCHES GROUND!

BUT A THOUSAND FEET ABOVE  
GROUND LEVEL, THE BURNING  
ASTEROID TURNED INTO  
SHADOW.

THAT'S WHAT I CALL  
A NEAT TRICK.

NO ONE'S NOTICED  
OUR DECEPTION.

WE'LL MAKE A HOLO  
OF THAT CLIFF FACE  
AND HIDE HERE.

THE ZARG BASE IS  
QUITE CLOSE!



THE 'ASTEROID'S' ENTRY HAD BEEN WATCHED BY A ZARG GROUND PATROL.

THERE'S SOMETHING ODD OVER THERE.

AN ASTEROID — THE SENSORS  
MONITORED ITS VAPORISATION.

NO... SOMETHING  
ELSE WAS THERE!

WE'LL TAKE A LOOK!

HIDDEN BEHIND A HOLO-SCREEN—

RECKON THAT PATROL WILL  
SPOT US, CALDO?

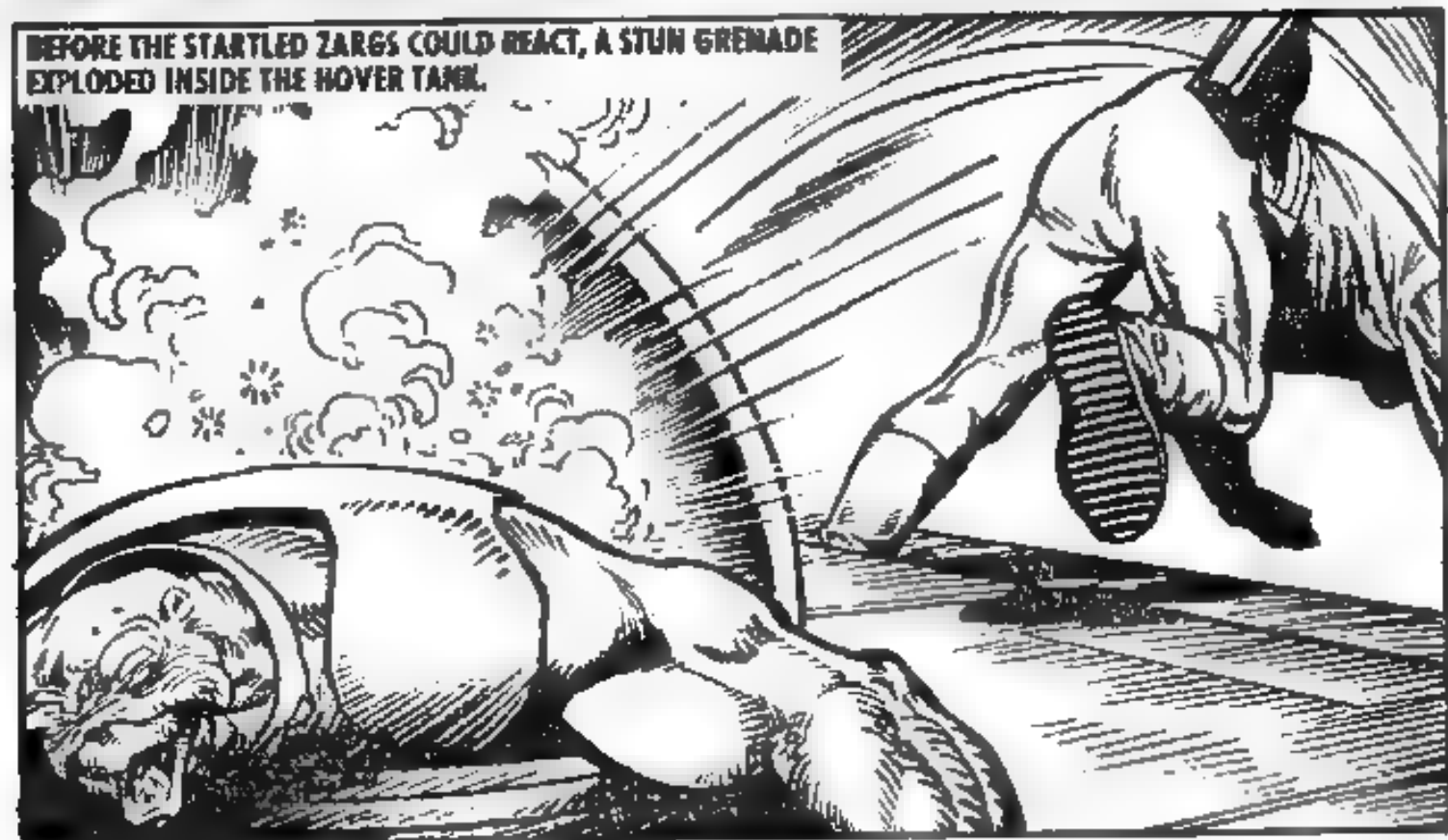
NO, THEY CAN ONLY  
SEE THE HOLO OF THE CLIFF!

AS THE ZARG TANK APPROACHED THE 'CLIFF'.

AEEII! WHAT  
IS THIS?

THE END OF THE  
LINE, VERMIN!

BEFORE THE STARTLED ZARGS COULD REACT, A STUN GRENADE  
EXPLODED INSIDE THE HOVER TANK.





WE CAN USE THIS TO MAKE A  
RECCE OF THE ZARG BASE.

I'VE GOT SOMETHING BETTER  
INSIDE SHADOW!

IN A SMALL ROOM, CALDO FITTED HIMSELF INTO A STRANGE DEVICE.

THIS IS A DEVELOPMENT OF A  
TELEPORT SYSTEM WE'VE BEEN  
WORKING ON. IT WILL PROJECT A  
HOLOGRAM OF MYSELF INTO THE  
BASE.



BUT WITH THIS NEW TYPE OF  
HOLOGRAM I'LL BE ABLE TO SEE  
AND HEAR WHAT'S HAPPENING.





THEN THERE'S NO SECRET  
SAFE FROM US.

NOT QUITE, LYGE. THIS MIND  
WARRIOR SYSTEM'S DANGEROUS. I  
CAN ONLY OPERATE IT FOR A FEW  
MINUTES — BUT I SHOULD MANAGE  
TO DISCOVER SOMETHING.

A HUGE ENERGY STATION AT THE ZARG BASE WAS  
BEAMING POWER UP TO THE ORBITING TIME-GUN.



CALDO'S MIND WARRIOR HOLOGRAM APPEARED.

LOOK! AN EARTHMAN!

THIS LOOKS PROMISING!  
I'LL START HERE.

NOW WHERE SHALL  
I GO FIRST?

WHY ISN'T  
HE DEAD?

I DON'T KNOW! IT'S  
UNBELIEVABLE! HE'S GOING INTO  
THE CENTRAL CONTROL UNIT.

CALDO'S HOLO WALKED THROUGH THE CLOSED DOOR—

DIE, YOU  
CURSED EARTHMAN!

STOP FIRING,  
YOU FOOLS!





JUST AS CALDO WAS ABOUT TO ENTER  
ANOTHER CHAMBER, HIS HOLO-IMAGE  
BEGAN TO FLICKER.

I'M BEING RECALLED ...

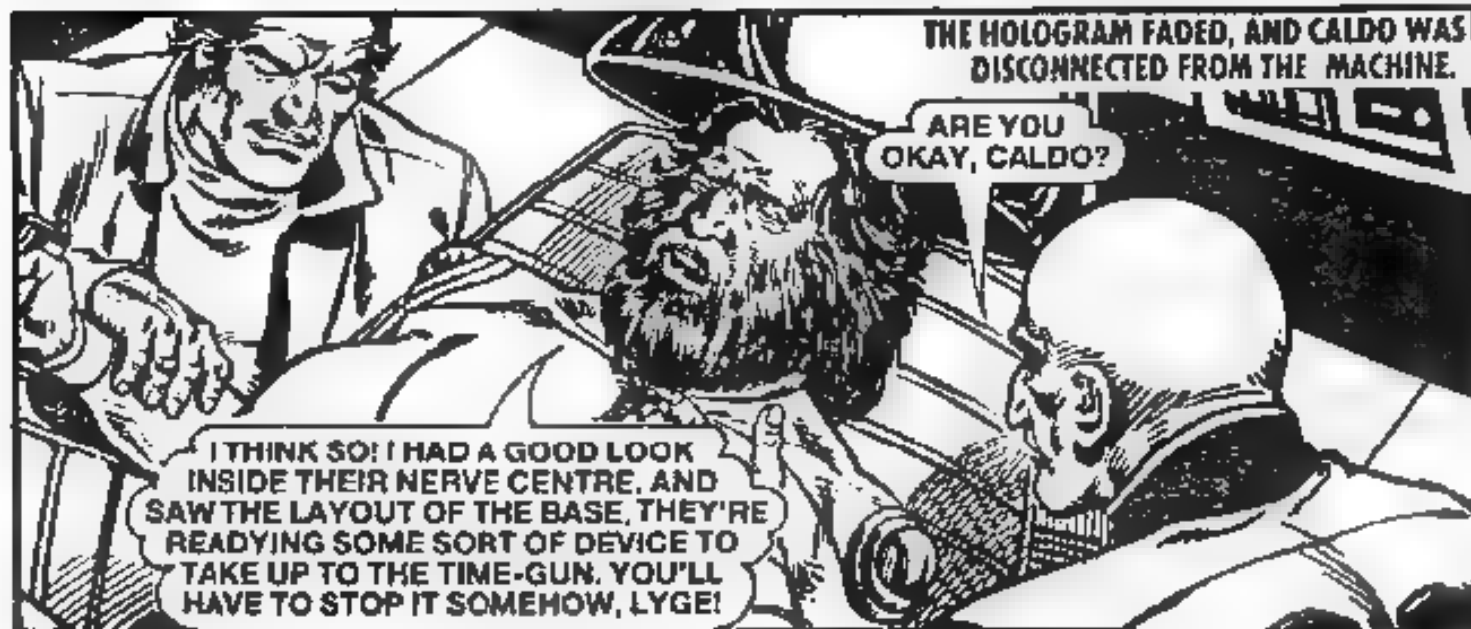
EMERGENCY! ALL PERSONNEL  
ON MAXIMUM SECURITY ALERT!  
REPORT ANYTHING UNUSUAL.




THE HOLOGRAM FADED, AND CALDO WAS  
DISCONNECTED FROM THE MACHINE.

ARE YOU  
OKAY, CALDO?

I THINK SO! I HAD A GOOD LOOK  
INSIDE THEIR NERVE CENTRE, AND  
SAW THE LAYOUT OF THE BASE, THEY'RE  
READYING SOME SORT OF DEVICE TO  
TAKE UP TO THE TIME-GUN. YOU'LL  
HAVE TO STOP IT SOMEHOW, LYGE!







TAKE THE ZARG TANK AND ALL THE  
MEN. SHADOW CAN GIVE YOU  
ELECTRONIC PROTECTION AGAINST  
SENSOR PROBING, BUT YOU'LL  
HAVE TO FIND YOUR OWN WAY OF  
SABOTAGING THE BASE!


WE'LL DO IT! WE'VE GOT A GOOD  
COLLECTION OF HARDWARE TO DEAL  
WITH THAT SORT OF THING!

SOON, LYGE WAS LEADING HIS COMMANDO SQUAD TOWARDS THE BASE.



D'YOU RECKON SHADOW  
CAN HIDE US?

IT MUST DO — OR WE'D  
HAVE BEEN LASED BY NOW!

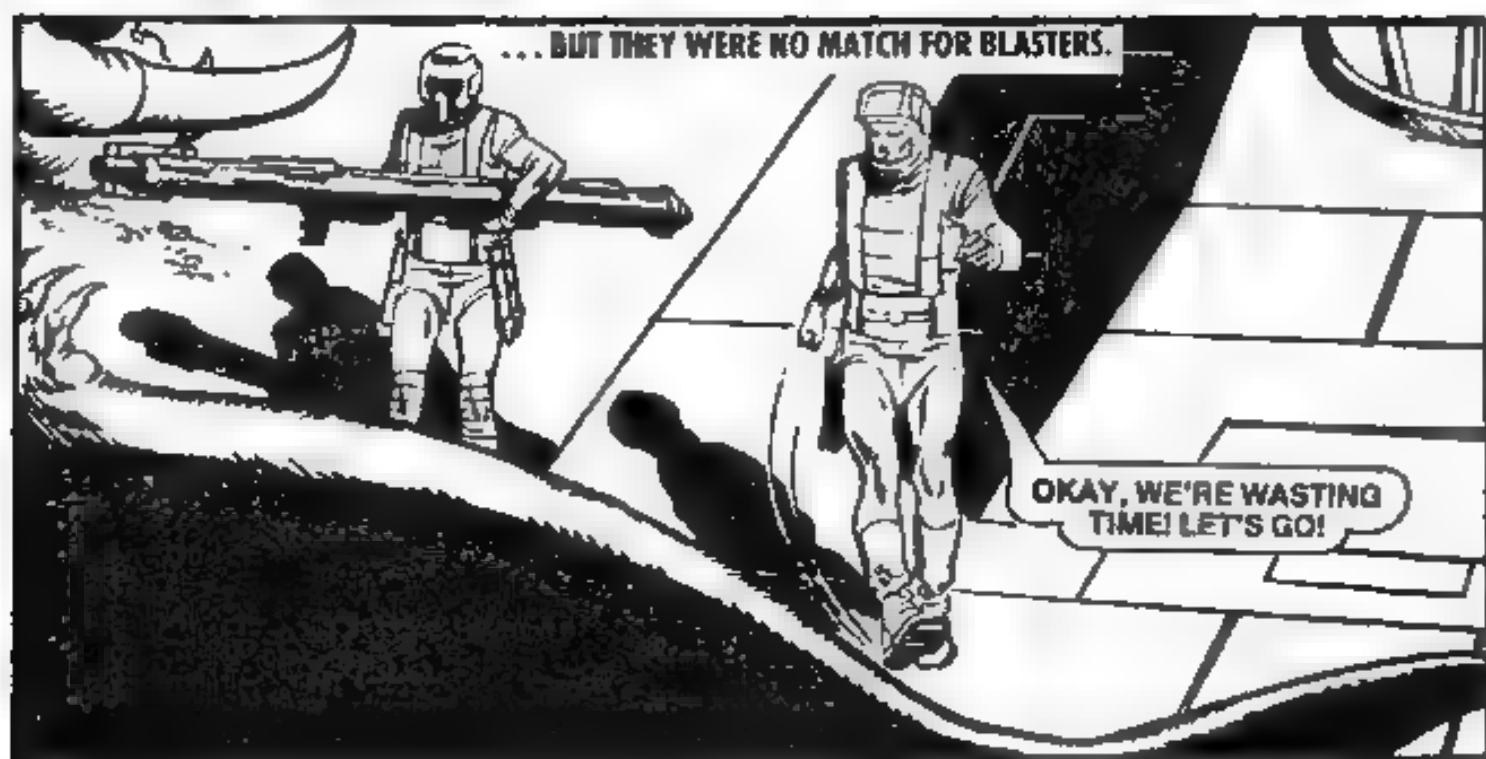
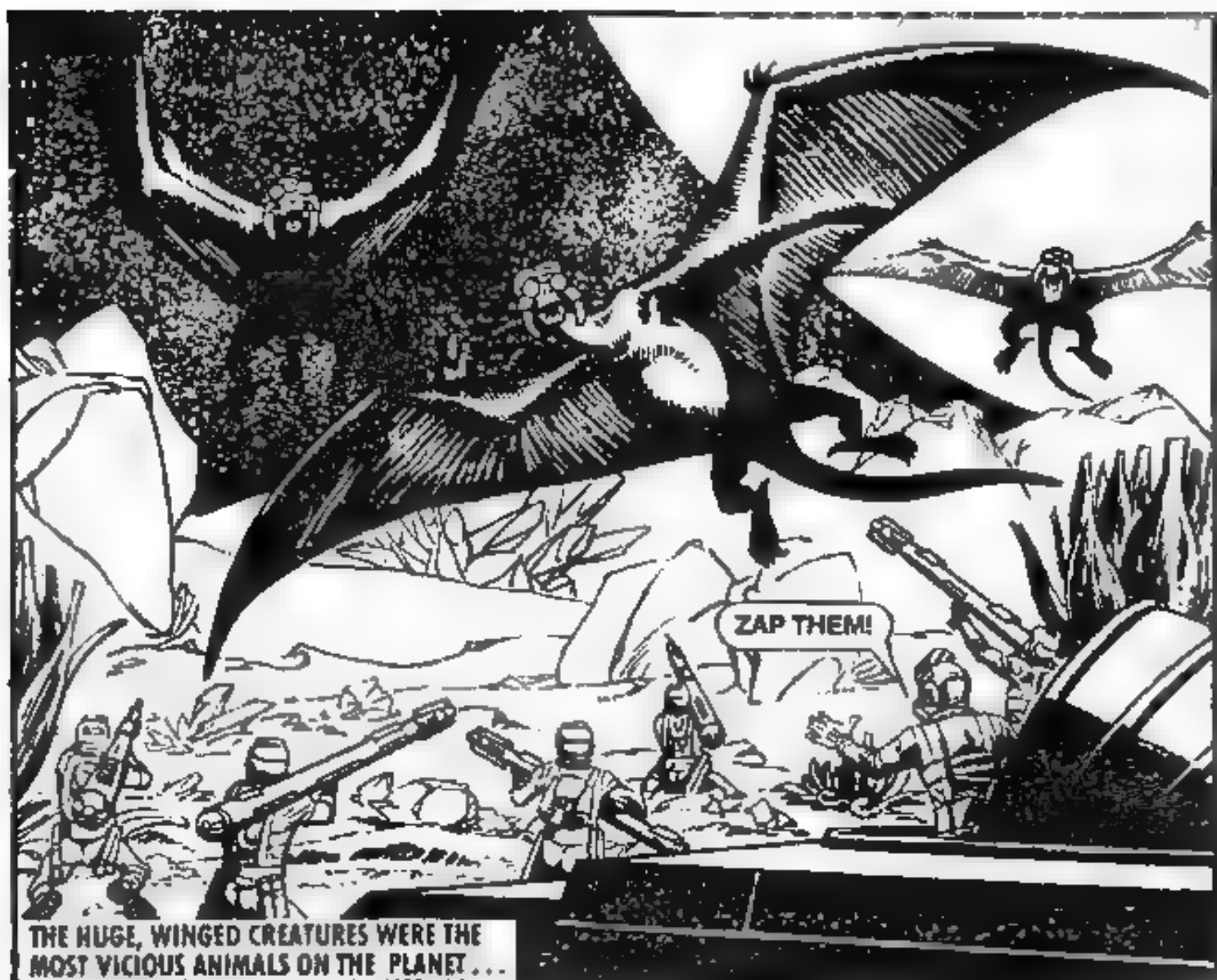


SOME OF US ARE GOING ON IN THE TANK. THE REST OF YOU STAY HERE WITH THE MISSILES. IF WE DON'T RETURN IN AN HOUR, OR I YELL, ZAP EVERYTHING YOU'VE GOT INTO THE BASE!

LYGE WAS PREPARING TO LEAVE WHEN THE SKY ABOVE THEM DARKENED.

BY THE PLANETS!  
LOOK AT THOSE BABIES!

THEY'RE COMING  
IN TO ATTACK!



UNDER A SENSOR SHROUD, THE TANK MOVED FORWARD.

SHADOW'S ELECTRONIC  
PROTECTION IS  
WORKING WELL.

YEAH! THEY MUST ALL BE GLUED TO  
THEIR SCANNERS LOOKING FOR THE  
INVISIBLE.

BUT—

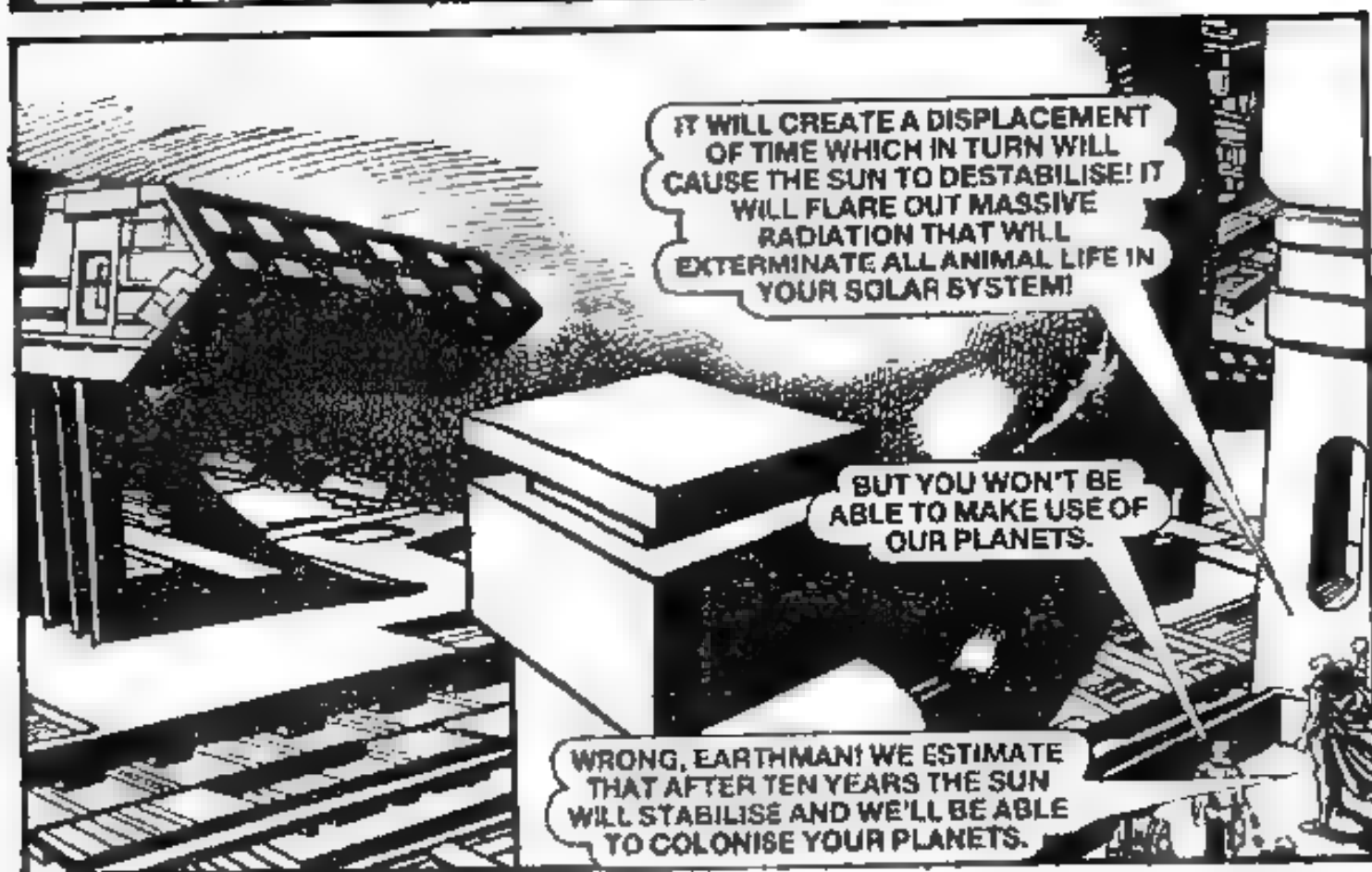
KRUMP!














LYGE SHOUTED AN ORDER INTO A HIDDEN COMMUNICATOR—

FIRE ALL  
MISSILES — NOW!

OUTSIDE THE COMPLEX—

YOU HEARD THE  
MAN! FIRE!

INSTEAD OF VAPORISING THE BASE, THE MISSILES EXPLODED LIKE FIREWORKS AS THEY RAN INTO ENERGY NEUTRALISING BEAMS—



YOU'VE FAILED, EARTHMAN! I TOLD YOU YOUR PRESENCE ON THE PLANET DIDN'T MATTER. BUT IT DOES BORE ME, SO WE MIGHT AS WELL EXECUTE YOU!

CALDO'S HOLO SUDDENLY APPEARED IN FRONT OF GORDOR—

MAKE A BREAK FOR  
IT, LYGE!



IGNORE IT! STOP THOSE MEN — IT'S  
ONLY A HOLOGRAM!



BUT CALDO'S FOOT SMASHED INTO THE ZARG WHO  
FELL INTO THE PIT.



DON'T TAKE ANY BETS  
ON IT, SUNSHINE!

CALDO TURNED TOWARDS THE ZARGS, ENERGY BEAMS LEAPING FROM HIS HANDS—

GRAB THEIR GUNS!

HELL'S FANGS! YOU'RE  
A REAL, LIVING THING!

SORT OF! I'M USING ALL THE POWER OF  
SHADOW. I'M AN ELECTRONIC BEING!  
IT'S NEVER BEEN DONE BEFORE. CAN'T  
TELL HOW LONG IT'LL LAST!



THEY BLASTED THEIR WAY THROUGH THE BUILDING AND OUTSIDE.

TAKE ONE OF THOSE  
HOVER-FLOATS, LYGE!

WE'LL NEVER GET  
OUT IN THAT.  
IT'S UNARMED!

YOU WILL!  
JUST TRUST ME!



THE ZARG FIRED, BUT CALDO ABSORBED THE ENERGY.

THE EARTHMAN IS  
INDESTRUCTABLE!

HE'S ACTING LIKE  
AN ENERGY SHIELD.

THEY CRASHED THROUGH THE ROAD-BLOCK—



MINUTES LATER THEY WERE SAFELY INTO OPEN COUNTRY.

I CAN DO ... NO ...  
MORE ... LYGE ...

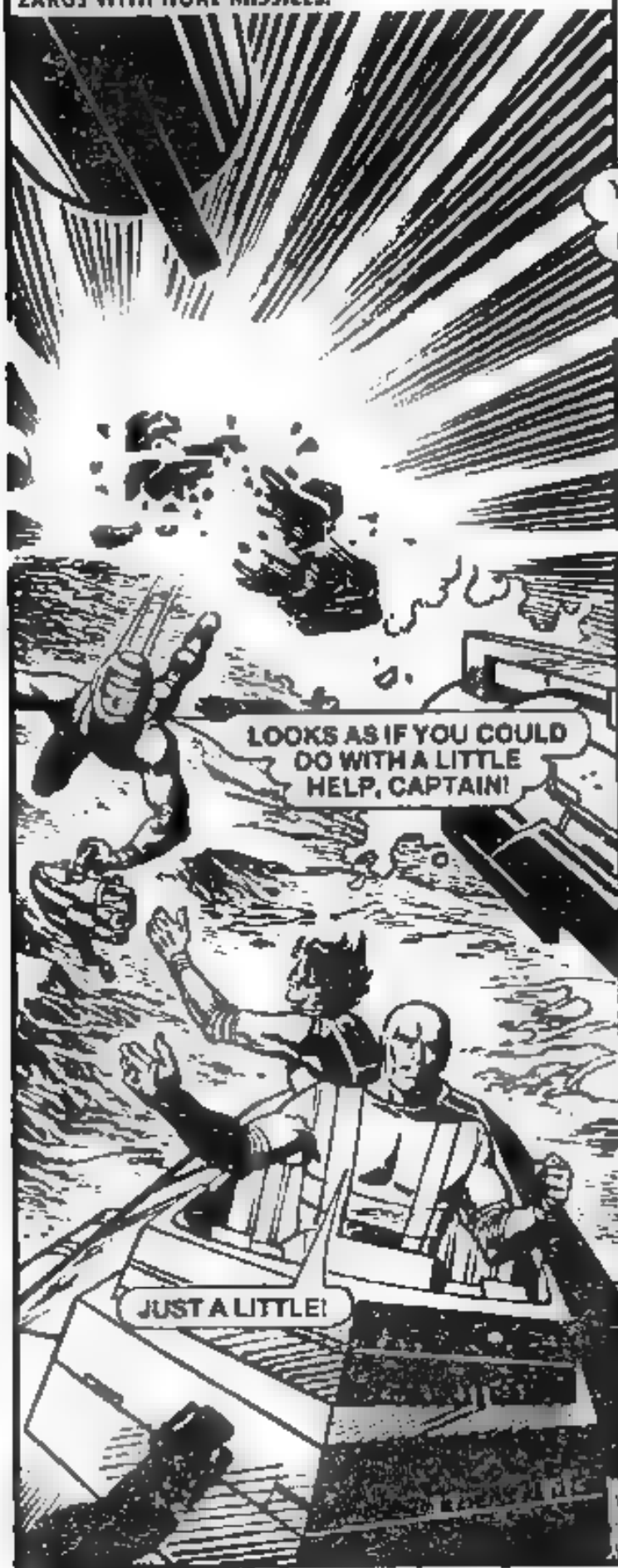
WE CAN MAKE IT  
FROM HERE, CALDO!

THEY'RE GETTING  
CLOSER, LYGE!

AND SO ARE WE!!



LYGE'S MEN JETTED OUT OF HIDING AND BLASTED THE ZARGS WITH HUK MISSILES.



LOOKS AS IF YOU COULD  
DO WITH A LITTLE  
HELP, CAPTAIN!

JUST A LITTLE!

SHADOW'S RECHARGED HER  
ENERGY BANKS — THE HOLO  
SYSTEM IS WORKING.

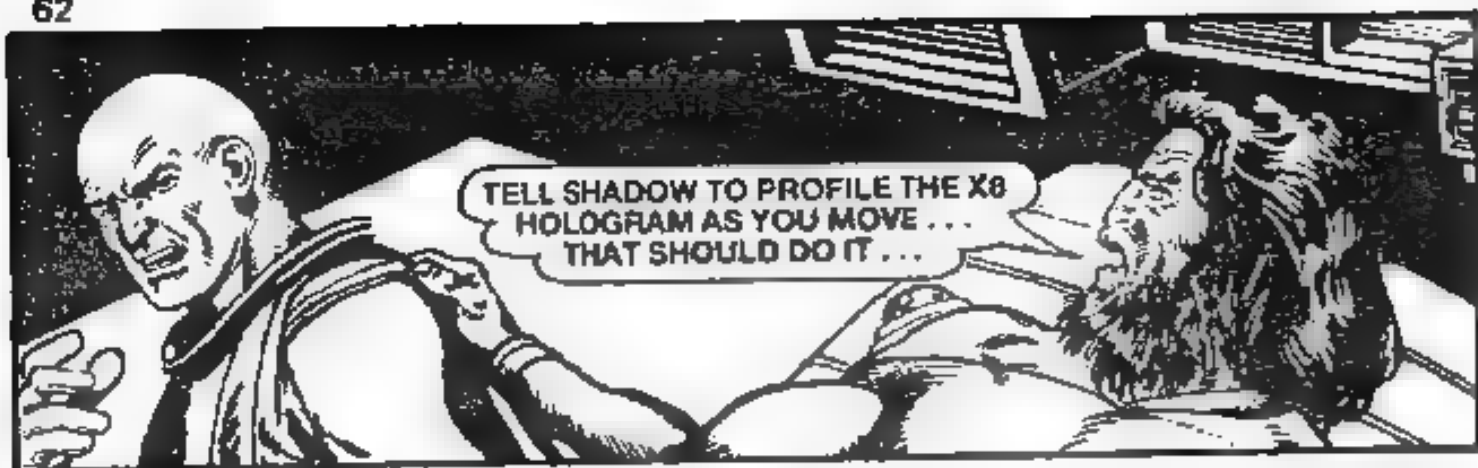
YEAH, AND WE MUST BE  
GETTING ELECTRONIC  
PROTECTION AS WELL!



LET'S HOPE SHADOW  
MANAGED TO PROTECT  
CALDO AS WELL!







BUT IT WAS A GREAT MONSTER, A HOLOGRAM, THAT THE ZARGS SAW BURST FROM THE CLIFFS—

WHAT IS IT?



CONFUSED, THE SENSOR ALLOWED SHADOW TO BLAST TOWARDS THE BASE—



**XX SHADOW USED ALL HIS POWER TO PENETRATE THE GROUND COMPUTER. ITS HOLO FADED.**

**SHADOW'S USED THE ZARG CODES FROM THE SHIP WE RAIDED! THEY WON'T KNOW WHAT WE'VE DONE!**

**WE'RE PICKING UP QUITE A BIT OF COMPANY!**

**NO SWEAT! WE'VE GOT THE EDGE OVER THEM FOR SPEED!**



AS THEY CAME IN SIGHT OF THE 'GUN' IT FIRED THE TIME-BOMB THROUGH TIME AND SPACE.

THEY'VE FIRED IT!

YEAH! BUT HAVE WE WON  
— OR HAVE THE ZARGS?

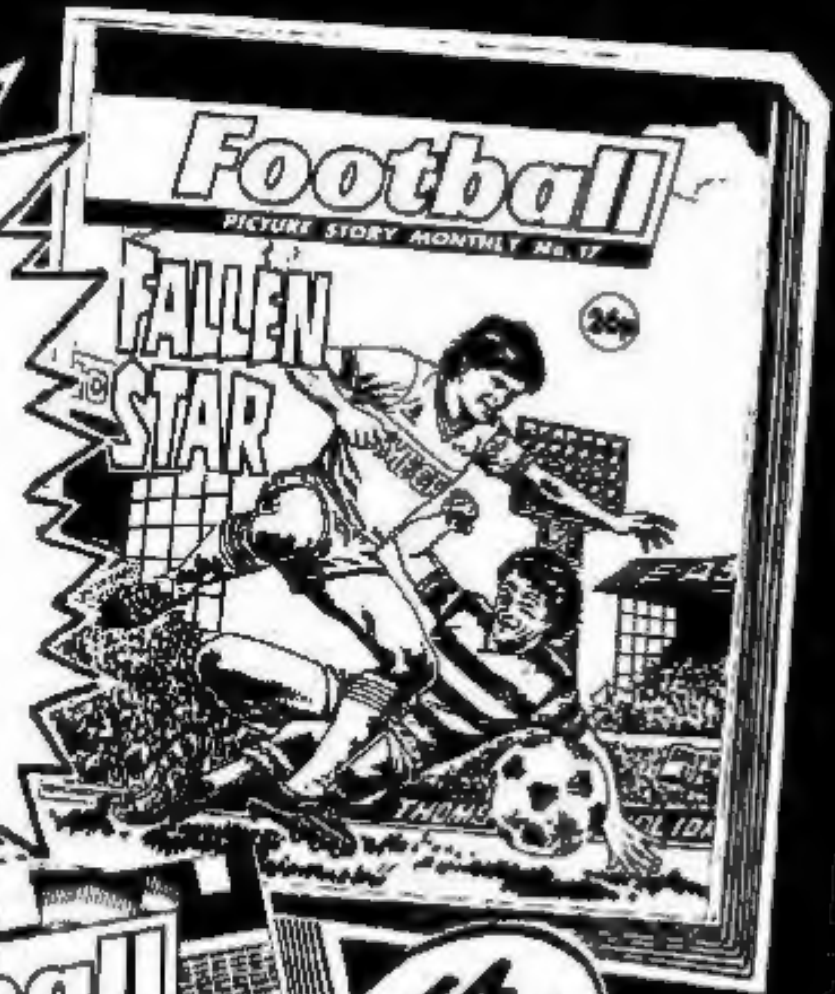
SHADOW ANSWERED LYGE'S QUESTION BY PRODUCING  
A STORED HOLOGRAM OF THE DEAD CALDO.

WE WON! THEY FIRED IT INTO THE DEAD  
CENTRE OF THEIR OWN SUN. IT'S THE  
ZARGS WHO ARE GOING TO BE WIPED  
OUT!

THEY WERE CLEARING THE ZARG SYSTEM WHEN THEIR  
SUN DESTABILISED, ERUPTING DEATH OUT INTO SPACE,  
AND THE HOLO-IMAGE OF CALDO FADED.



**TWO  
GREAT  
FOOTBALL  
PICTURE  
STORY  
LIBRARIES  
EVERY  
MONTH!**



**64  
PAGES  
EACH**

**PLUS  
A FULL COLOUR  
MINI PIN-UP...  
...AND A PAGE  
OF FOOTBALL  
FUNNIES...  
IN EVERY ISSUE!**

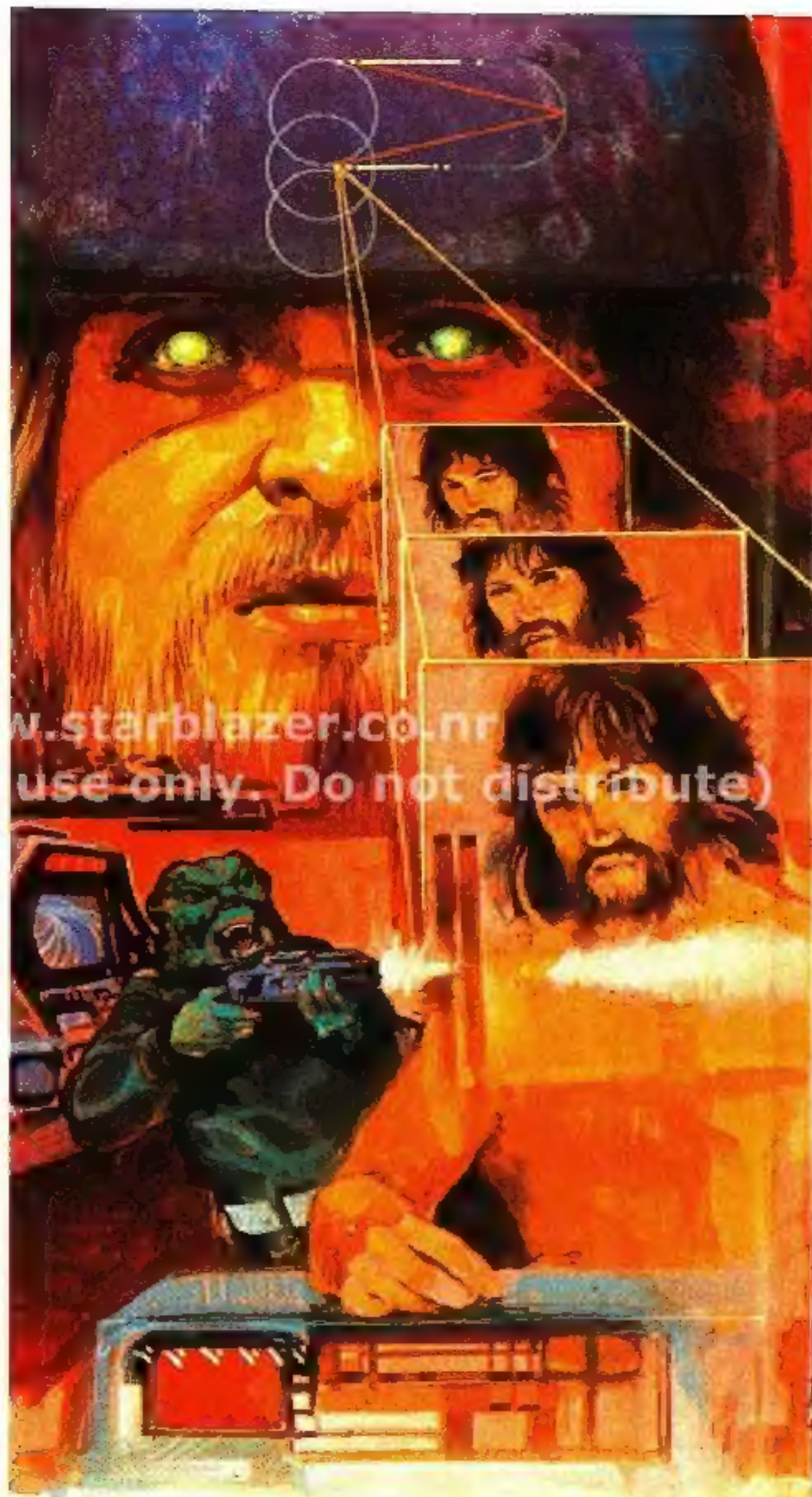
**NOW ON SALE**

**26p**



# MIND WARRIOR

IN THE BATTLE  
TO KEEP THE  
WARLIKE  
ALIEN  
HORDES AT  
BAY, THE  
TERRAN ARMY  
USED NO END  
OF  
INGENIOUS  
DEVICES IN  
COMBAT. NONE  
WERE  
SUCCESSFUL,  
NONE EXCEPT  
THE MOST  
INGENIOUS  
DEVICE EVER  
DEVELOPED —  
THE HUMAN  
BRAIN ...



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